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September 3, 1966

Dear Mr. Wolff,

It is my belief that a major literary scandal is in the making. I am writing to let you know of it and to ask, if you may properly do so, that you save all the releasees on all the similar books of whatever antecedents and authorship besides Leo Sauvagess. He is a man of such high ehtical standards he seems unreal today.

My files are open to you, on a confidential basis, should you personally or the Washington Post so desire. I do not now believe there should be any publicity because some things more important than financial gain and loss are involved.

Much information of interest is breaking in the European press. I have copies of some, especially interesting to me being a story by Peter Fairley in the Evening Standard of August 26. It says, among many other fascinating things, that his October book is being published by the New York Review. The Philadelphia Inquirer of several days ago in a story I do not have reported it is an enlargement of his July 28 piece in that paper. Following its appearance I also had correspondence with the NY Review, of an unsatisfactory nature.

You may perhaps be interested, in connection with the current publicity about the Manchester book, in an interview with the New York Times last year. It appeared in the May 19, 1965 paper. I have a copy. He was also interviewed by Jeremy Campbell of the London Evening Standard whose story appeared the last Wednesday of June 1966, I believe the 29th. I also have a copy.

When I was in NY earlier this week to participate in a panel program on the Report that will be syndicated by Metromedia and released in about two weeks I was told Manchester has had a return of his nervous disorder. I cannot coffirm this but my source is a trade one, and I do trust it.

I have no way of knowing whether you or the Post will be interested. In any event, I do trust you for both advice and to maintain confidence. I shall probably mail this in Washington Monday. I'll be in Washington probably Wednesday, should you like to see me. The releases and news in the trade and other press to which I do not have access could be of value to me, if not for other interests, and I'd much appreciate getting these from you if possible.

With all the work on WHITEWASH I have nonetheless almost completed a sequel of which I'd prefer nothing public at the moment for there may be some hazard. I've roughed most of it, 12 chapters, under terrible conditions and too great haste for the writing to be what it should be. But the content I think is major. I wish I knew a good editor! I already have an offer for it from a house I've never heard of...If you think you may have any interest and are willing to believe me when I say a scandal has already been made, you may want to keep page 329 of the August 29 issue of Publishers' Weekly, a copy of which was mailed me by a customer.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg